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COUNTRY East Germany REPORT

TOPIC Information on KVP Units in the Torgelow Area 25X1

EVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED 25X1

DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 15 January 1954

REFERENCES

PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

This is UNEVALUATED Information

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1. the A-Blocks 25X1
 at Droegeheide quartered about 500 men with blue-bordered black epaulets, the B-Blocks about 1,000 men with black and yellow-bordered black epaulets and the C-Blocks about 1,200 men with red epaulets. The installation was occupied to about two thirds of its quartering capacity. The billeting area was being surrounded with a brick wall about 2 meters high; the street front of this wall was already completed. A culture house was under construction in the area of the A-Blocks. In the motor vehicle garages, the floor was being concreted. The officers' billets were about 70 percent occupied. Officers dependents moved into the houses almost daily. Houses No 7, 8, 9, 25, 26 and 27 were occupied by Soviet officers. At the entrances to the area of the A-Blocks guards had been posted since recently. They checked the identity cards of every soldier and civilian. The guards ordered many soldiers whose uniforms were not up to strict military standards to return to their billets. this measure was taken with a view to improving military discipline. 1 25X1
2. Only light training activity was observed. Details of soldiers who carried entrenching tools were repeatedly seen leaving the billeting area. Athletic activities were observed every afternoon in fair weather. On the afternoon of 25 November, 3 T-34/85 tanks left the tank parking site for the area surrounding the installation. A Soviet officer was seen on one of the tanks. 3 battery commander's telescopes, 3 tables with field glasses, rubber boots and a pneumatic boat in front of one of the buildings of the C-Blocks. About one hour later, a unit of 400 men marching behind a military band. 25X1
3. the units stationed there were equipped with a model Maxim-47 heavy machine gun the existence of which was to be kept secret. 25X1
 this type of machine gun was similar to the German model-42 machine gun. 2

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4. Motor vehicles identified at the installation included trucks [redacted]

[redacted]
sedans [redacted]

[redacted]
jeeps [redacted]

[redacted]
and ambulance [redacted]

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5. [redacted] a tank unit of 300 to 400 men who wore blue service color in the northern section of the KVP installation in the forest about 1.5 km southeast of Torgelow. The installation had an estimated quartering capacity of 800 to 1,000 men. The installation also quartered an artillery unit of 600 to 700 men who wore red-bordered black epaulets. [redacted] this unit [redacted] had received many new recruits. At the back of the installation [redacted] 2 x 75-mm field guns; trucks [redacted] was seen in front of a garage. The commanding officer of the artillery unit used jeep [redacted] The portion of the installation occupied by the Artillery unit had a quartering capacity of 1,200 to 1,500 men. The southern portion of the barracks installation quartered a very strong infantry unit of 2,000 to 2,500 men. On one day [redacted] in this area, 60 recruits drawing items of equipment. Supply trucks [redacted] were seen in the area of the installation occupied by the infantry unit. The barracks installation was being surrounded with a brick wall, work on which had been started on the side bordering on the street. 3

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1. [redacted] Comment. The new barracks installations at Droegeheide quarters the 3d Inf Regt of about 1,500 men, an artillery regiment of about 1,000 men and a tank SP regiment of about 500 men. All the units mentioned belong to Bereitschaft Prenzlau.

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2. Comment. The existence of a model Maxim-47 heavy machine gun is reported for the first time. So far Soviet and Satellite army units had been reported as using a model Maxim-1910 and a model Goryunov-43 heavy machine gun. The Soviet Occupation Forces in Germany are equipped with a model Goryunov-43 heavy machine gun, while the Satellite armies mostly use the obsolescent model Maxim-1910 heavy machine gun. KVP units recently also been partly equipped with the model Goryunov-43 heavy machine gun. This machine gun and the Soviet model-46 light machine gun do not reach the rate of fire of the former German model-42 machine gun. It appears improbable that a new weapon like the alleged model Maxim-47 heavy machine gun should be observed with a KVP unit sooner than with the Soviet Occupation Forces. 25X1
3. Comment. It is surprising that the units of TV 12 which have been brought to about 75 percent of their authorized strength should have received many new recruits. To date it has been believed that priority was given in the assignment of new personnel to units of TV 24 and of Mechanized Pereitschaft Potsdam which have reached only 55 percent respectively 67 percent of their authorized strength. The strength figures are exaggerated. See also Comment 1 above. 25X1

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